

COMMUNICATION FROM MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION OF THE OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Yvonne B. Burke, Member of the Commission of the Office of Congressional Ethics:

YVONNE B. BURKE,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
January 8, 2014.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker,
Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Leader,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER AND MADAM MINORITY LEADER: I am serving notice today of my intention to resign from the OCE. It is with great regrets and only because I accepted a position as a member of the Board of AM-TRAK that I am asking to be relieved. The additional travel to the District for two meetings has become extremely difficult particularly because of my other responsibilities.

I have really enjoyed working with the Members of the OCE and the staff. I feel very proud of the accomplishments of the OCE and its positive contribution to the House of Representatives.

I have been honored to have had this opportunity to serve.

Best wishes,

Yours truly,

YVONNE B. BURKE.

APPOINTMENT OF INDIVIDUALS TO SERVE ON THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to section 4(d) of House Resolution 5, 113th Congress, and the order of the House of January 3, 2013, of the following individuals to serve on the Governing Board of the Office of Congressional Ethics.

Nominated by the Speaker with the concurrence of the minority leader:

Ms. Judy Biggert, Illinois, Alternate, for the remainder of the term of Mr. Bill Frenzel

Nominated by the minority leader with the concurrence of the Speaker:

Brigadier General (retired) Belinda Pinckney, Virginia, for the remainder of the term of Mrs. Yvonne Brathwaite Burke

CONGRATULATING EDEN PRAIRIE WRESTLING COACH SCOT DAVIS ON HIS 1,000TH COACHING VICTORY

(Mr. PAULSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Eden Prairie Wrestling Coach Scot Davis on his 1,000th coaching victory as his Eagles squad defeated Columbia Heights by a score of 58-17 last month at Eden Prairie High School. Davis' 1,000th victory

gives him the most wins of any high school wrestling coach in the United States.

While this is Davis' first year coaching at Eden Prairie, he has coached 35 different seasons of prep wrestling, including 20 years at Owatonna High School, where he coached two state championship teams.

With a group of his friends attending the match at Eden Prairie, he admitted to feeling a little bit more pressure than usual, but the Eden Prairie team easily delivered the milestone victory. While Coach Davis said he never set a specific goal for victories, he did say that reaching the 1,000th victory was a special accomplishment.

So again, congratulations to Coach Davis for accomplishing this impressive feat, and also, thank you for continuing to dedicate yourself to helping student athletes with your time and your talent.

EXTENDING EMERGENCY UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

(Mr. FOSTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak on behalf of the thousands of my constituents who have had an essential safety net pulled out from under them because Congress has failed to take action to extend emergency unemployment insurance.

On December 28, 1.3 million nationwide, and over 80,000 in my home State of Illinois, lost unemployment insurance. Our economy is still recovering from the worst recession since the Great Depression, and now is not the time to cut off this important safety net.

I have heard from hundreds of my constituents about this, including Yvonne, a mother of five from Aurora, Illinois. While she has worked all of her life, she is now unemployed. Without unemployment insurance, she will no longer have a car or any of the resources she needs to look for work and to get her career back on track.

Unemployment insurance is not a handout; it is a hand up. Unemployment insurance is for workers who have lost their job, through no fault of their own, and who need a lifeline while they look for work.

In addition to leaving families without a safety net, failing to extend unemployment insurance is simply bad economic policy.

SNAP CUTS AND FARM MANAGEMENT LOOPHOLE

(Ms. DELAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to voice my objection to the misguided priorities that are taking shape in the conference farm bill. More and more, and despite payment reforms that were

included in both the House and Senate legislation, it sounds like this farm bill plans to steal food from the poor to help pay crop subsidies to the rich.

Unbelievably, on the 50th anniversary of the war on poverty, it is being reported that the farm bill currently being negotiated in conference will include cuts of roughly \$8.5 billion to food stamps, denying critical food aid to over 800,000 households.

Some of the same conferees who support these cuts are looking to strip out payment limits that are designed to stop the subsidizing of millionaire and billionaire farmers, a loophole they are reopening that was closed already.

They are going to take food from the hungry: children, seniors, veterans, and workers. They are going to go out of their way to ensure that the wealthiest agribusinesses in America are getting handouts.

Allowing poor Americans to starve so that we can subsidize rich corporations is not why we are here. It is cruel, it is corrupt, it is immoral, and we have to do better for the people that we represent.

WAR ON POVERTY

(Mr. HORSFORD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, 50 years ago today, President Johnson declared a war on poverty. Since that day, our country has fought to increase access to resources for those struggling to make ends meet.

Poverty has declined by more than one-third since 1967. That is because, historically, we have had strong bipartisan support for programs like Social Security and Medicare and tax policies like the Earned Income Tax Credit.

But the war on poverty is not over. In 2012 there were 49.7 million Americans living in poverty, including 13.4 million of our children.

We cannot break our promise to fight poverty. That is why this Congress needs to do everything to strengthen these programs and lift people out of poverty.

Tax credits for struggling families reduced the poverty rate in 2012 by 3 points. SNAP helped to reduce poverty by 3 points. Unemployment insurance reduces poverty as well, and it is why we need to extend it.

Our commitment to these programs must not waver. Let us work together to really end poverty now.

UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

(Ms. KUSTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KUSTER. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise in strong support for renewing the Emergency Unemployment Compensation program.

Because Congress failed to act, this vital program expired on December 28